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**BIGGERT ANNOUNCES GRANT TO  
LOCKPORT TOWNSHIP FIRE AND AMBULANCE DISTRICT**  
*Federal funds to finance personal protective equipment*

Clarendon Hills, Illinois – The Lockport Township Fire and Ambulance District has won a \$14,742 federal grant to finance protective equipment for emergency workers, U.S. Representative Judy Biggert (R-13<sup>th</sup>) announced today.

“Now more than ever, we must ensure that our firefighters are properly equipped from the minute they step foot outside the station to the time they return,” said Biggert. “Providing new gear that reduces injury and saves lives is the least we can do for the men and women who put their lives on the line for us.”

Awarded under the Federal Emergency Management Administration’s (FEMA) Assistance to Firefighters Program, the grant provides 90 percent of the funds required to equip “first-out units” with self-contained breathing devices that sound an audio alarm when a firefighter becomes disoriented, trapped or lost for a period of time.

“I’ve been here for 29 years and this is the first time we’ve received federal funding,” said Fire Chief George “Buzz” Beverly. “This is a landmark – a big deal for us. We’re very appreciative and grateful that Rep. Biggert got this for us.”

Beverly added, “Last week’s tragic events in New York City and Washington, D.C. make it all the more special.”

With Biggert’s support, Congress last year appropriated \$100 million in fiscal year 2001 funds to help local fire departments improve safety, prevention, efficiency, fitness, and communication.

Last month, the Fire Department of Romeoville won a \$34,200 federal grant to launch a proposed Wellness and Fitness program.

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